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Atty. Docket No.: P70334US0

**REMARKS**

The Office Action mailed April 23, 2007, has been carefully reviewed and, by this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 15-28 and added new claim 29. Accordingly, claims 15-29 are pending in the application. Claim 15 is independent. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicants have corrected informalities noted in the specification, including the addition of headings, as well as informalities noted in the abstract. The text added to page 1 corresponds with the claim previously referred to and therefore no new matter has been added.

The Examiner objected to claims 21 and 22 as containing informalities which Applicants have corrected herein. Other amendments have also been introduced into the claims as a whole in order to better conform with U.S. practice.

The Examiner rejected claims 15-17, 19 and 23-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0071346 to Paratte et al. ("Paratte") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,646,634 to Bokhari et al. ("Bokhari"). Also under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the Examiner rejected claim 18 as being unpatentable over Paratte and Bokhari in view of U.S. Patent No.

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5,798,984 to Koch, and rejected claims 20-22 as being unpatentable over Paratte and Bokhari in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,853,605 to Fujisawa et al.

As set forth in amended claim 15, the present invention is directed to a timepiece comprising a middle, a watch movement housed in the middle, a transceiver circuit associated with the movement and an antenna connected to the transceiver circuit. The antenna is formed by a *solid electrically conductive monobloc mass* having the shape of at least a portion of a ring. This mass is disposed on the *outer periphery* of the middle, with the antenna being connected to the transceiver circuit by a conductor passing through the wall of the middle on a portion of its thickness. This structure is not shown by the prior art.

Paratte is directed to a timepiece having an inductive antenna with two terminals. The antenna is made by conducting whorls forming an inductance. The magnetic field (magnetic component of the emitted electromagnetic field) crossing the loop formed by the whorls induces a current.

The antenna of the present invention, by contrast, is made of a conducting part which, in combination with the box of the timepiece, forms a condenser which collects the electric field (electric component of the emitted electromagnetic field)

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present between the two conducting elements. In the presence of an electric field, a tension exists between these two elements. By connecting a self inductance to each of these conducting elements, a resonant circuit is created on the frequency to be received. This is not shown or suggested by Paratte or Bokhari.

In addition, neither Paratte nor Bokhari teach or suggest an antenna formed by a solid *electrically conductive monobloc mass* that is disposed on the outer periphery of the middle portion of the timepiece. In Paratte, the antenna is internal to the timepiece. The antenna of Bokhari is disclosed as a separate component with no suggestion of its placement in a timepiece; however, the Bokhari antenna has a solid disc-shaped structure and is not suitable for placement on the *outer periphery* of a timepiece. Further, to the extent that the antenna of Bokhari could be externally placed, which is not suggested by Bokhari, the components thereof are not intended to be decorative. Rather, elements 1-3 and 40-53 cited by the Examiner are functional in their design, with their *geometries* intended to provide for *frequency adjustment*, not aesthetics (see column 4, lines 58 to column 5, line 3).

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 15 is patentable over the prior art. Claims 16-29 are also in

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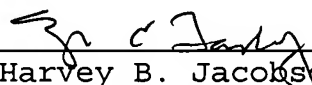
condition for allowance as claims properly dependent on an allowable base claim and for the subject matter contained therein. Particularly, claim 29 is allowable as the prior art does not teach or suggest an antenna as set forth in claim 15 in which the timepiece is a wristwatch and the conductive solid mass forms an outer face thereof.

With this amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the present application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 24, 2007  
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